Listing of the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A process for preparing a support for catalysts, which comprises:

a) preparing a hydrogel;

b) milling the hydrogel to give a finely particulate hydrogel having a solids content;

c) producing a slurry having a solids content, the slurry comprising the finely particulate hydrogel;

d) drying the slurry comprising the finely particulate hydrogel, thereby forming a support for catalysts,

wherein the finely particulate hydrogel comprises:

- at least 5% by volume of the particles, based on the total volume of the particles, have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 3 μm; ~~and/or~~ and
- at least 40% by volume of the particles, based on the total volume of the particles, have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 12 μm, ~~and/or~~ and
- at least 75% by volume of the particles, based on the total volume of the particles, have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 35 μm.

2. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein the finely particulate hydrogel comprising at least 90% by volume of the hydrogel particles, based on the total volume of the particles, has a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 35 μm.

3. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein the finely particulate hydrogel has a solids content in the range from > 0% by weight to ≤ 25% by weight, calculated as oxide.

4. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein the finely particulate hydrogel, comprising at least 40% by volume of the hydrogel particles, based on the total volume of the particles, has a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 10 μm.

5. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein the finely particulate hydrogel comprising at least 10% by volume of the hydrogel particles, based on the total volume of the particles, has a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 2.8 μm.

6. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein inorganic hydroxides, oxide-hydroxides, oxides and/or salts, or mixtures thereof, are added to the hydrogel in step b) and/or the slurry in step c).

7. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein inorganic hydroxides, oxide-hydroxides, oxides and/or salts are added to the hydrogel in step b) and/or the slurry in step c) in an amount of ≤ 10% by weight based on the total solids content.

8. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein AlOOH is added to the hydrogel in step b) and/or the slurry in step c) in an amount of from 1% by weight to 30% by weight, based on the total solids content.

9. (Previously amended) The process for preparing a support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein compounds of alkaline earth metals are added to the hydrogel in step b) and/or the slurry in step c) in an amount of from 1% by weight to 10% by weight, based on the total solids content.

10. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein hydroxyl methyl cellulose is added to the hydrogel in step b) and/or the slurry in step c) in an amount of from 0.1% by weight to 10% by weight, based on the total solids content.

11. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solids content of the slurry in step (c) is ≤ 20% by weight based on the total weight, in step c).

12. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein drying of the slurry comprising the finely particulate hydrogel is carried out by means of spray drying.

13. (Currently amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein ≤ 5% by volume of the support ~~particles~~ obtained after drying have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 25 μm, based on the total volume of the particles.

14. (Previously amended) The process for preparing the support for catalysts as claimed in claim 1, wherein the support particles produced after drying have a mean particle size in the range from 1 μm to 350 μm.

15. (Previously amended) A support for catalysts prepared

by a process comprising:

a) preparing a hydrogel;

b) milling the hydrogel to give a finely particulate hydrogel;

c) producing a slurry comprising the finely particulate hydrogel;

d) drying the slurry comprising the finely particulate hydrogel, thereby forming a support for catalysts,

wherein the finely particulate hydrogel comprises:

- at least 5% by volume of the particles, based on the total volume of the particles, have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 3 μm; ~~and/or~~ and
- at least 40% by volume of the particles, based on the total volume of the particles, have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 12 μm, ~~and/or~~ and
- at least 75% by volume of the particles, based on the total volume of the particles, have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 35 μm.

16. (Previously amended) The support for catalysts as claimed in claim 15 further comprising a silicon content of the support of ≥ 10% by weight based on the total weight of the support.

17. (Previously amended) The support for catalysts as claimed in claim 15 further comprising an aluminum content of the support of ≥ 10% by weight, based on the total weight of the support.

18. (Currently amended) A process comprising ~~preparing a catalyst comprising a support, the support being prepared by a process comprising~~:

a) preparing a hydrogel;

b) milling the hydrogel to give a finely particulate hydrogel;

c) producing a slurry comprising the finely particulate hydrogel;

d) drying the slurry comprising the finely particulate hydrogel, thereby forming a support for catalysts~~,~~; and

e) supporting a catalyst on the support,

wherein the finely particulate hydrogel comprises:

- at least 5% by volume of the particles, based on the total volume of the particles, have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 3 μm; ~~and/or~~ and
- at least 40% by volume of the particles, based on the total volume of the particles, have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 12 μm, ~~and/or~~ and
- at least 75% by volume of the particles, based on the total volume of the particles, have a particle size in the range from > 0 μm to ≤ 35 μm.

19. (Previously amended) The process of claim 18 wherein the catalyst is a polymerization or copolymerization catalyst for olefins.

Claims 20-42 canceled.